

Friends of the State Library of Massachusetts NEWSBrief

January 2016

Come Check out the New Exhibit on the History of the Massachusetts State House: Opening Jan. 14



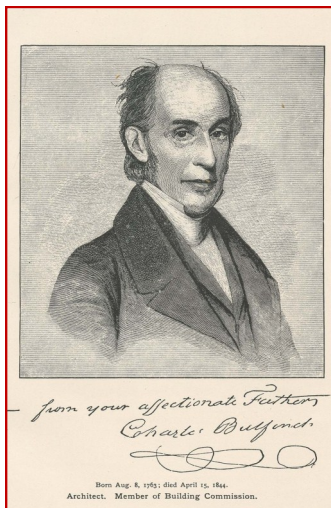
A Historical View of
the Massachusetts State House
January 14 - May 30, 2016

The 18th century in Boston ended with the creation of our City's most iconic building, the Massachusetts State House. The structure has changed greatly throughout the centuries, with additions, renovations, and landscaping changes. But through it all, one thing

has stayed the same: the intimidating beauty of the building itself. The Winter 2016 exhibit of the State Library of Massachusetts tells the story of the Massachusetts State House, beginning with the commissioning of Charles Bulfinch to design the building, all the way through the 20th century.

We will share with you the history of the State House through text, images, and artifacts, leading you through a journey from where the legislature met before the State House even existed to the halls and rooms of the modern day building. Beneath the glinting gold dome on Beacon Hill lies a labyrinth of hallways, offices, chambers and rooms; a mismatched, yet stunning jumble of the early and contemporary days of our state government.

The exhibit, featuring specifics on the design and construction of the State House, four additions, the House and Senate Chamber, the Governor's office, Doric Hall and of course the Library itself, will show you a glimpse into the maze that sits atop Beacon Hill and looks down at our beloved home.



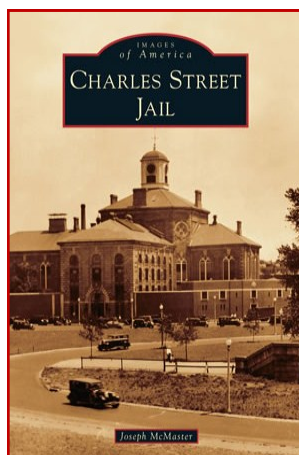
Portrait of Charles Bulfinch

Did You Miss December's Author Talk with Joseph McMaster?

The State Library was pleased to have author Joseph McMaster come to talk about his book on the "Charles Street Jail" on Dec. 17th. He gave a pictorial history using slides of the Suffolk County Jail, more commonly known as the Charles Street Jail. The jail was built by Gridley James Fox Bryant, who did one of the additions of the State House, with advice from Reverend Louis Dwight, a prison reformer. After closing in 1990, it was

transformed into its current incarnation as the Liberty Hotel in 2007. The Liberty Hotel kept many architectural features including the 33 foot tall windows, the central atrium area, the wrought iron work and a few of the jail cells. Mr. McMaster spoke of the many people and institutions who helped him with his research including: the Boston Public Library, Boston Herald and the Department of Conservation and Recreation Archives and he is donating all the profits

from the sale of the book to the West End Museum.



**Friends of the State
Library of Massachusetts**

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Thank You for Your Support!

Join us for our next Author
Talk by Michael Blanding on
his book, "The Map Thief"
from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. on
Thurs. Jan. 21.

As always, please feel free to
email us at:

Friends.StateLibrary@state.ma.us

We want to hear from you!